



Bryce Yokomizo
Director

April 18, 2002

TO: Each Supervisor *ra*

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director *Bryce Yokomizo*

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER (DWP) REFRIGERATOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM

This is to provide you with update information on the Department of Water and Power (DWP) Refrigerator Exchange Program which was reported to you on November 6, 2001.

As of this date, 10,445 of our DPSS population that live within the DWP boundaries have been offered the opportunity to receive a new refrigerator from DWP by completing a questionnaire/application form. As of March 29, 2002, DPSS has referred 459 prequalified applicants who met DWP's criteria to DWP. Of those referrals, DWP has delivered 197 refrigerators.

The original DPSS populations contacted included those who applied to the Special Circumstances Program (SCP) for refrigerators and participants in the GAIN Welfare-to-Work Program.

As almost 800 of the available refrigerators are left, we have developed other strategies to reach out to additional DPSS populations. We will next contact nearly 12,000 In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) clients who reside in the DWP service area. This action should provide more referrals to DWP thereby increasing the number of refrigerators distributed by DWP.

Please note that the contracted vendor, who approves or denies each of the referrals and makes the deliveries, expired at the end of December. Therefore, there will be no approvals or deliveries until approximately mid-June, after DWP has released an RFP and negotiated a new contract. Nevertheless, we will continue to process applications received and make referrals to DWP. DPSS has made a total of 414 referrals to DWP since the contract expired. DWP will evaluate the referrals and will notify those clients who are eligible that they will be contacted by the vendor upon the approval of the new contract.

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DWP has expressed their extreme satisfaction with the way our Department has partnered with DWP staff on this program.

I will continue to monitor the Program and keep you updated on its progress.

BY:jw

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors